

**REMARKS**

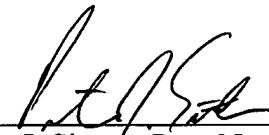
Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the claims as amended in this Preliminary Amendment for examination purposes. Entry of this Preliminary Amendment is respectfully requested.

**CONCLUSION**

If there are any other fees due in connection with the filing of this Preliminary Amendment, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-0573. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 not accounted for above, such an extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

**DRINKER, BIDDLE & REATH LLP**



---

Peter J. Sistare, Reg. No.: 48,183  
Dated: February 28, 2006

**CUSTOMER NO. 55694**  
**DRINKER, BIDDLE & REATH LLP**  
1500 K Street, N.W., Suite 1100  
Washington, D.C. 20005-1209  
Tel: (202) 842-8800  
Fax: (202)-204-0289